

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): Do the Government accept that position, Sir?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): The matter is under consideration.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon (Mulakunnathukavu): May I know, whether there is any area in any taluk which is not covered by a Village Committee.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): Excepting the Talappalli Committee which has resigned.....

Mr. K. Narayana Menon (Mulakunnathukavu): That is not my question. My question is whether there is any village area not covered by the Village Committees in any Taluk?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): I think all the Village areas are covered.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon (Mulakunnathukavu): Then is it not a fact that if all these village areas are covered by village committees that the Taluk Committees will be a superfluity.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): It is not so because in the Taluk Committees there will be various questions that will be arising for consideration affecting the entire taluk and so the Government think that in addition to Village Committees a separate committee for the whole taluk will be helpful.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon (Mulakunnathukavu): May I know, whether there is any provision in any notification about the latter part of the answer, that the Taluk Committees have other powers also.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): Of course no notification is issued. But that is the understanding on which these committees are working.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): Is there not the implication, Sir, the other way that they have no functions other than those of the village committees.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): The Government publication is to that effect.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): Is there such a Committee for Mattancheri Town?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): Yes.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): Have they given any advice regarding sugar being made available in retail shops?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): I want notice.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): Are their advices taken with reference to the fair price shops?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): I want notice.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon (Mulakunnathukavu): Has the Government any objection to allow the Committees to see the working of the Sirkar Depots also.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): No objection.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): May I know, what functions are exercised by the Mattancheri Town Committee?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): The functions of the Taluk Committee and the Town Committee are the same. Only the area covered by these committees is different.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): What I want to know is what kind of advice is sought from them?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): That question has already been answered.

GROUNDNUTS—PROHIBITION OF EXPORTS

165. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon (Chittur-Rural):** Will Government be pleased to state,—
(a) whether they have considered the predicament in which the agriculturists are placed by their order prohibiting the export of groundnuts;

(b) whether they have any account to show how much groundnut is produced in the State;

(c) if so, what is the quantity;

(d) do they know that the groundnuts, the red variety, sprouts if they are not exposed to sun when taken out;

(e) are not the crops taken generally in Chingam and Kanni;

(f) do they know that the crops are exported to Pollachi at once they are taken out that they may be dried in the sun;

(g) how do the Government think of utilising the nuts in the State if they cannot be exported?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*):

- (a) Yes.
- (b) Yes.
- (c) About 6,750 tons of undecorticated nuts equivalent to 4,927.5 tons of kernels.
- (d) Yes.
- (e) The harvest begins in Karkadakam and extends to Chingam and Kanni.
- (f) The stuff was being taken to Pollachi because there was a ready market there for it.
- (g) This is required for consumption in the State. Transport permits will be given to the cultivators or dealers for taking the surplus stock in Chittur Taluk to other parts of the State.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon (*Chittur-Rural*): What is the nature of the consumption referred to in (g) ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Both for eating and crushing purposes.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon (*Chittur-Rural*): Do the Government know that these groundnuts when they are ripe sprout if not taken soon.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Yes.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon (*Chittur-Rural*): And do the Government know that when taken if it is not dried at once, it sprouts ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Yes.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon (*Chittur-Rural*): May I know, how the Government propose to meet the situation ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): There is now a complaint in the Chittur Taluk that the groundnuts produced in the season which used to be exported to Pollachi and Coimbatore are not being allowed to be exported because of the ban and so some difficulty has been caused. The question of export will be considered if there is a surplus quantity.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*): When there is prohibition for the export of groundnuts what is the justification for not having prohibition over the articles produced from groundnuts, such as groundnut oil and cake.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): It is required here mostly in the form of nuts. So that question does not arise.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Chittur-Tattamangalam*): Are the Government satisfied that the agriculturists who take out groundnuts now are in a position to get them dried properly ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): It has been represented that there has been some difficulty in the rainy season to get nuts dried.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Chittur-Tattamangalam*): So is it not desirable that nuts which are now being uprooted are allowed to be exported to Pollachi so that they will be dried there.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): If there is no consumption for it in the State it will be allowed. But we are negotiating with the Tatas to see how much more they can purchase. There are two varieties, the red and the white. The red being of inferior variety is not in great demand for crushing purposes. The Tatas have offered to take the white variety and it is only a question of adjusting the price. The red variety, if it is not required here, will be allowed to be exported.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Chittur-Tattamangalam*): Are the Government aware that the nuts which are being uprooted now belong to the red variety ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Most of them are.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Chittur-Tattamangalam*): Will the Government be pleased to note that unless people are allowed to export the red variety to Pollachi, all the stuff taken out will be spoiled ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): That question will be considered.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): Is not the demand in Cochin for groundnuts more than what is produced in Cochin.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Yes it is so.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon (*Mulakunnathukavu*): Is not groundnut oil being imported ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Yes. We have got a quota for it.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (Nellayi): It is admitted that we have not got sufficient manure in the State for agricultural purposes. So is it not the duty of the Government to prohibit the export of cakes.

Mr. T. K. Nayar (Minister for Rural Development): The export of ground nut cake is prohibited. But the Tatas have got an excess stock and they are permitted to export, but in their case they are getting down ground nuts from British India also.

FAIR PRICE SHOPS—PARTICULARS OF

166. Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon (Cheruthuruthi): Will Government be pleased to state.—

- (a) the number of fair price shops in the State;
- (b) if all these shops are given the required Assistants;
- (c) if not, what is the reason for it?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies):

(a) 104.

(b) and (c) Some of the Fair Price Shops in Chittur and Talappilly Taluks were working without the full complement of staff on account of the fact that many of the candidates did not join duty in those places. In some cases the candidates left the posts abruptly without giving any notice at all. Regular promotions to clerical staff have also been given to some of the staff of these shops. Consequently there were vacancies in those places and it took some time to fill them up. But every effort is being made to see that the Fair Price Shops are working with the full complement of staff.

Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon (Cheruthuruthi): Are they not working like that now?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): At present we are short of the staff only to the extent of two.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): Do you take any security from these fair price shop employees?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): Yes, we take a security from the fair price shop managers.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): Are they made responsible for any damage in goods taken by them?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): Yes, if they are liable, if it is due to their negligence or want of proper care.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): What pay do you give them?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): Rs. 25 to the manager and Rs. 15 to his assistant.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): Who is measuring the articles, and what is his pay?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): It is the Assistant and he gets Rs. 15.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): Is any one paid daily wages?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): No.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon (Chittur-Rural): Were there no applicants for these posts from Chittur itself.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (Director of Food Supplies): Generally from Chittur applicants are very few. I do not exactly remember.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon (Chittur-Rural): We can supply any number.

FEE CONCESSIONS—PARTICULARS OF

167. Mr. C. K. Nayar (Nemmara):

ഗവണ്മെന്റ് സഭയം മറപടി പറയുമോ.—

(എ) എത്രയും വിധത്തിലുള്ള ഫീസിളവുകളാണ് ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ഇപ്പോൾ അഭ്യൂതാക്കൾക്കു അനുവദിക്കാൻ;

(ബി) സംസ്ഥാനത്തിലെ സഹായധനം പറന്നില്ലാത്ത സെക്കണ്ടറി വിദ്യാലയങ്ങളിൽ ഒട്ടാകെ ഈ വിദ്യാലയവകുപ്പിൽ പകുതി ഫീസിളവുള്ള വിദ്യാർത്ഥിനികളെ ഒഴിച്ചാൽ മറ്റ് വിഭാഗങ്ങളിൽ ഓരോന്നിലും എത്ര അഭ്യൂതാക്കൾ വീതം അധ്യയനം ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ട്;

(സി) ഈ ഫീസിളവുമൂലം പ്രസ്തുത വിദ്യാലയങ്ങൾക്കു എത്ര ഉറപ്പിക ഒട്ടാകെ വരവിൽ കറയുന്നുണ്ട്;

(ഡി) സഹായധനം പറന്നില്ലാത്ത എത്ര സെക്കണ്ടറി വിദ്യാലയങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടു സംസ്ഥാനത്തിൽ?